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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/426,038	10/25/99	VIND	J 5579.210-US

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EXAMINER

PONNALURI, P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1627

DATE MAILED:

11/07/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Part of Paper No. 5

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1. This application is a continuation in part of application serial number 09/186,665.
2. The preliminary amendment filed on 10/25/99 has been fully considered and entered into the application.
3. Claims 23-26 have been canceled by the amendment filed on 10/25/99, and claims 1-22 and 27-29 are currently pending in this application.

Please Note: In an effort to enhance communication with our customers and reduce processing time, a dedicated Fax machine is in place to receive your responses. The Fax number is 703-308-4315. A Fax cover sheet is attached to this Office Action for your convenience. We encourage your participation in this Pilot program. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Jyothsna Venkat, Ph.D., Supervisory Patent Examiner at jyothsna.venkat@uspto.gov or 703-308-2439. Thank you in advance for allowing us to enhance our customer service. Please limit the use of this dedicated Fax number to responses to Written Restrictions.

Election/Restriction

4. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-21, drawn to a method of constructing and selecting or screening a library of polynucleotide sequences of interest in filamentous fungal cells, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

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II. Claims 22-27, drawn to a method of constructing and screening or selecting a library of polynucleotide sequence of interest in filamentous fungal cells, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

III. Claims 28-29, drawn to a library of polynucleotide sequences of interest which library comprises filamentous fungal cells transformed with a population of DNA vectors, classified in class 536, subclass 25.6.

5. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons: a)

Inventions group I and group II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions of group I are drawn to a method of constructing and selecting a library of polynucleotides, using fungal markers and fungal replication initiating sequence; which is different from the group II method which uses bacterial or yeast selection markers and bacterial or yeast replication initiating sequences. Thus restriction among the groups is proper.

b) Inventions of group II and group III are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions the group II are drawn to a method of making and selecting a library of nucleotides using bacterial or yeast selection markers and bacterial or yeast replication

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initiating sequences; and group III inventions are drawn to a library of polynucleotide sequences of interest which library comprises filamentous fungal cells transformed with a population of DNA vectors. Thus restriction among the groups is proper.

6. Inventions of group I and group III are related as process of making and product made.

The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the library of polynucleotide sequences of interest comprising fungal cells can be made using entirely different method from group I (i.e, see group II).

7. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

8. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

A) If group I is elected applicants are requested to elect a single species from each of the following groups:

- a) Replication initiating sequences, SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2;
- b) polynucleotide sequences are prepared by: random mutagenesis or naturally occurring allelic variations of parent nucleic acids;

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- c) polynucleotide sequence encodes: a polypeptide; or control sequence; or part of polypeptide; or part of control sequence;
- d) If in c) polypeptide is elected applicants are requested to elect a single species from: hormone; an enzyme; a receptor; a portion of receptor; an antibody; a portion of an antibody; a reporter; a regulatory protein;
- e) If in d) an enzyme is elected applicants are requested to elect a single type of enzyme from claim 5;
- f) if in d) an enzyme is elected applicants are further requested to elect a single type of enzyme from claim 6;
- g) applicants are requested to elect a single type of control sequence from claim 7;
- h) if in g) a promoter is elected applicants are requested to elect one type of promoter from claim 8;
- I) applicants are requested to elect a selective marker from claim 9;
- j) if in I) a prototrophy to auxotrophs as selective marker is elected, applicants are requested to elect one single type of metabolic pathways from claim 10;
- k) applicants are requested to elect a single type of gene for selective marker from claim 11;
- l) applicants are requested to elect a single type of replication initiating sequence from group a), b), c) or d);
- m) applicants are requested to elect nucleic acid sequence ID No: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2;

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n) applicants are requested to elect a single type of modification of the parent polynucleotide sequences from claim 18;

o) applicants are requested to elect a single type of fungal cell from claims 20 and 21.

The species are distinct from each other because they are structurally and functionally different from each other and do not require the other for ultimate use, the species election for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

B) If group II is elected, applicants are requested to elect a) either bacterial or yeast cells; and b) selective markers (either bacterial or yeast cells); and c) bacterial or yeast replication initiating sequence

The species are distinct from each other because they are structurally and functionally different from each other and do not require the other for ultimate use, the species election for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1, 14-17, and 28-29 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

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Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

9. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37

CFR 1.143).

10. Applicant is required to reply to this restriction requirement within 30 days of mailing this action. See MPEP 809.2(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to P. Ponnaluri whose telephone number is (703) 305-3884. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jyothsna Venkat, can be reached at (703)308-2439. The fax number for this group is (703)305-3014.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0196.



P. Ponnaluri
Patent Examiner
Technology center 1600
Art Unit 1627
06 November 2000



RESTRICTION ELECTION FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE:

FROM/ATTORNEY:

FIRM:

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TO EXAMINER: P. Ponnaluri

ART UNIT: 1627

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